Union To Seek Delay On Debts —Rally Is Held

P. J. Ciampa, field director with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, said yesterday union officials will call on Memphis businessmen to whom sanitation workers owe money and ask for a moratorium on debt collections until the strike is settled.

Mr. Ciampa said any merchant who refused to honor the union request would be paid by the union but probably boycotted later.

"We're in the process of setting up committees to deal with the strikers' problems," Mr. Ciampa said.

Last night, a crowd estimated at 2,000, which included striking sanitation workers, their families and sympathizers, heard ministers and labor leaders say the garbage strike couldn't last forever but that the strikers could hold out longer than the City of Memphis.

The meeting was at the Mason Temple Church of God in Christ at 938 Mason. Food which had been donated was put into sacks for distribution during the session.

Bishop J. O. Patterson, father of City Councilman J. O. Patterson Jr., told the crowd, "what's mine is yours if you need it."

The Rev. W. L. Porter said the meeting purpose was not political.

Among those making cash and food donations were several white college students. Howard Chilton, 21, of 145 North Montgomery, a Memphis State University senior, and Susan Macdonald of 3611 Norriswood, an MSU graduate student, said they were there to "donate money and show our support."

A typical food sack contained sugar, meal, lard, coffee, canned milk, canned peas or beans, half dozen eggs, two loaves of bread, said Mrs. Willie Mae Clark of 2047 Hubert, who supervised the sacking.

PAGE 19 Sect I
Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
Sunday 2-18-68 issue.

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
FEB 19 1968
FBI — MEMPHIS

157 1092-12